

GREENLAWNS HIGH SCHOOL
FINAL EXAMINATION 2025-26

STD: IX
SUB: ENGLISH LANGUAGE

TIME: 2 HOURS
MARKS: 80

- Answers to this paper must be written in the answer sheet which is provided separately.
- You are not allowed to write during the first *10 minutes*. This time is to be spent in reading the question paper.
- The time given at the head of the paper is the time allowed for writing the answers.
- Attempt all *five* questions.
- The intended marks for questions or parts of questions are given in brackets ()
- You are advised to spend not more than *30 minutes* in answering *Question 1* and *20 minutes* in answering *Question 2*.

Question 1

(Do not spend more than 30 minutes on this question.)

Write a composition (300-350 words) on any one of the following:

[20]

- Write an original story beginning with the sentence: Jenny could feel her heart racing as she stared at herself in the mirror...
- "We Should Think Twice Before Buying Online." Express your views for or against the topic.
- Describe the tranquil routine of evening strolls.
- Narrate about a time when you stood up for what you believed in. Be sure to share with your reader what the situation was like, what happened when you stood your ground, and what happened as a result.
- Air pollution continues to affect human health in crowded cities. State the causes, effects of the problem and ways to solve it.
- Study the picture given below. Write a story or a description or an account of what it suggests to you. Your composition may be about the subject of the picture or you may take suggestions from it; however, there must be a clear connection between the picture and your composition.



Question 2

(Do not spend more than 20 minutes on this question.)

Select any one of the following:

(10)

- (i) You are having a party and want to invite your friend from a different city. Write a letter to your friend. In your letter explain why are you having the party, give directions on how to get to the venue and suggest how you can accommodate him/her
- (i) You are the manager of a reputed firm. A consignment sent by you to one of your regular customers was returned with a letter complaining of the inferior quality of goods. Write a letter of apology, explaining the causes and your plans for replacement.

Question 3

(10)

1. Your school is hosting an Inter-house Debate Competition. Draft a **notice** for the school notice board giving all relevant details of the event.
2. Write an **email** to the principal of a school requesting him/her to send their English teachers to judge the inter house debate competition held in your school.

Question 4

Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow: (20)

I had been lunching rather well at a club in St. James Street with an old friend from abroad, and, passing along King Street afterwards, he persuaded me to look in at the sale-room of art auctioneers. The place was full. They were selling French paintings and getting tremendous sums for each; two thousand, three thousand, for little bits of things-forest scenes, pools at evening, shepherdesses, the regular subjects. Well, we watched for a little while and then I found myself bidding too- just for fun. I had exactly sixty-three pounds in the bank and not enough securities to borrow five hundred on, and here I was nodding away to the auctioneer like a man of wealth.

"You will get caught", my friend said to me.

"No. I shall not," I said, "I am not going to run any risks".

For a long time I did not take any risks and then a picture was put up. Although the previous lots had run into four figures they had all been modestly started at fifty guineas or a hundred guineas, with a gradual **crescendo** to which I had often been a safe contributor, but no sooner was the new picture displayed than the dealer made his sensational bid. 'Four thousand guineas,' he said.

There was a rustle of excitement, and at the end of it I heard my own voice saying, "And fifty!"

A terrible silence followed.

“Four thousand and fifty guineas offered,” said the auctioneer, searching the room.

My heart stopped; my blood **congealed**.

“Four thousand and fifty guineas. Any advance on four thousand and fifty guineas?”- and the hammer fell.

That was a nice pickle to be in! Here I was with sixty-three pounds in the world and not five hundred pound’s worth of securities, and I had purchased a picture which I did not want, for four thousand and fifty guineas, the top price of the day. I set to **pondering** on the problem what to do next. I was running over the names of uncles and other persons from whom it might be possible to borrow.

Meanwhile the sale came to an end and I stood on the outskirts of the little knot of buyers round the desk who were writing cheques and giving instructions. Naturally I preferred to be the last.

Then the unexpected happened.

A voice at my ear suddenly said, ‘I beg your pardon, sir, but were you the gentleman that bought the big Daubigny?’

I admitted it.

“Well, the gentleman who offered four thousand guineas wanted to know if you will take fifty guineas for your bid”.

Wow! I would have taken fifty farthings.

“Is that the most he would offer?” I had the presence of mind to ask. “Tell him I’ll take a hundred”, I said.

What a surprise! I got it.

1. For each word given below choose the correct meaning (as used in the passage) from the options provided: (2)

- i. crescendo
 - a. down
 - b. bottom
 - c. escalation
 - d. low
- ii. congealed
 - a. froze
 - b. melted
 - c. softened
 - d. dissolved

1. Which word in the passage is the opposite of 'pondering'? (1)
 - a. contemplating
 - b. studying
 - c. disregarding
 - d. considering
2. What did the narrator observe after entering the sale-room of the art auctioneers? (2)
3. Why did the narrator participate in the bidding? What did his friend warn him? What did the narrator assure his friend? (2)
4. How would the bidding for previous pictures (before the picture of Daubigny was put up) begin? (2)
5. How was the narrator saved from the precarious/dangerous situation in the end? (2)
6. Though the narrator was lucky in the end what lesson do you think has the writer tried to teach through this story? (1)
7. Describe the mental condition of the narrator when the hammer fell in not more than 50 words. (8)

Question 5

- i. Fill in each of the numbered blanks with the correct form of the word given in brackets. Do not copy the passage but write in correct serial order the word or phrase appropriate to the blank space. [4]
- Example: The old man (0) _____ (rise) with a great effort.
- Ans: rose

He (1) _____ (take) the bowl between his shaking hands and he went to the other basket. There, while the vendor (2) _____ (watch), the old man (3) _____ (pull) aside the quilt until one could see the shrunken face of a small boy lying with his eyes fast closed. One (4) _____ (will) have said the child was dead except that when the old man (5) _____ (lift) his head so his mouth (6) _____ (can) touch the edge of the little bowl he (7) _____ (begin) to swallow feebly until the hot mixture was finished. The old man (8) _____ (keep) murmuring to him: Thank You!

- ii. Fill in the blanks with appropriate words: [4]
- a. The principal presided _____ the meeting.
 - b. She insisted _____ my staying in the village.
 - c. The theory exam was followed _____ a group discussion.
 - d. She fell _____ the roof.
 - e. I prefer cycling _____ walking.
 - f. He warned me _____ the danger.
 - g. He is always in need _____ money.
 - h. The caravan must reach its destination _____ sunset.

iii. Join the following sentences to make one complete sentence without using and, but or so. Choose the correct option. [4]

1. Hema is more intelligent. Seema is less intelligent.
 - a. Hema is more intelligent than Seema.
 - b. Hema is not more intelligent than Seema.
 - c. Both Hema and Seema are intelligent.
 - d. None of the above.
2. Gold is a metal. It is dug out of the earth.
 - a. Gold is a metal and it is dug out of the earth.
 - b. The metal gold can be dug out of the earth.
 - c. Gold is a metal which is dug out of the earth.
 - d. Both a and b.
3. The director was absent at the premiere. The actors were absent.
 - a. The director as well as the actors are absent at the premiere.
 - b. The director as well as the actors was absent at the premiere.
 - c. The actors as well as the director is absent at the premiere.
 - d. The director as well as the actors were absent at the premiere
4. The child is carrying a bag. It is filled with books.
 - a. The child is carrying a bag which is filled with books.
 - b. The child is carrying a bag as he has to fill it with books.
 - c. The child is carrying a bag since it is filled with books.
 - d. The child is carrying a bag to fill with books.

iv. Choose the correct option to rewrite the following according to the instructions given after each sentence. Choose the correct option. [8]

1. The boys were playing Cricket. (Begin: Cricket...)
 - a. Cricket had been played by the boys.
 - b. Cricket has been played by the boys.
 - c. Cricket was played by the boys.
 - d. Cricket was being played by the boys.
2. Ajay will attend the seminar if Dr. Sinha presents his paper. (Begin: Unless...)
 - a. Ajay will attend the seminar unless Dr. Sinha presents his paper.
 - b. Unless Ajay will attend the seminar Dr. Sinha will not present his paper.
 - c. Unless Dr. Sinha presents his paper, Ajay will not attend the seminar.
 - d. Both a and b

3. "When will you submit your notes, Sheila? I asked. (Begin: I asked Sheila...)
 - a. I asked Sheila to submit her notes.
 - b. I asked Sheila when will she submit her notes.
 - c. I asked Sheila why not submit her notes to me.
 - d. I asked Sheila when would she submit her notes.

4. A fragrant flower is the loveliest creation of nature. (Begin: No other...)
 - a. No other creation is lovely.
 - b. No other creation is as lovely as a fragrant flower.
 - c. No other creation is the loveliest.
 - d. No other flower is lovely than a fragrant flower.

5. She is a painter. She is a sculptor. (Use: Not only but also)
 - a. She is a painter but also a sculptor.
 - b. She is not only a painter but also a sculptor.
 - c. Not only is she a painter, she is also a sculptor.
 - d. None of the above.

6. As soon as she heard the news, she called her friend. (Use: No sooner)
 - a. No sooner she heard the news to call her friend.
 - b. She called her friend no sooner she heard the news.
 - c. No sooner did she call her friend to hear the news.
 - d. No sooner did she hear the news than she called her friend.

7. He spoke too fast to be understood. (Remove too...to)
 - a. He spoke fast and was understood.
 - b. He spoke too fast and was understood.
 - c. He spoke so fast that he could not be understood.
 - d. None of the above.

8. A song will be sung by Krishna today. (Begin: Krishna...)
 - a. Krishna sang a song.
 - b. Krishna will sing a song today.
 - c. Krishna can sing a song today.
 - d. Krishna sings the songs.